



County of Door DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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**Public Hearing on the proposed 2010 s. 85.21 Specialized Transportation
Assistance Program for Counties for Door County
Held by the Social Services Committee
November 10, 2009**

Social Services Committee Chairman Mark Moeller called the November 10, 2009 Public Hearing to order at 1:30 p.m. Other committee members present were Charles Brann, Joel Gunnlaugsson and Ben Meyer. Department staff present were: Roger Tepe, Bev Knutson, Doreen Weyenberg, Joanne Ator, Kay Englebert, and Michael VanEss. Committee member, Marc Savard, was not in attendance.

Chairman Mark Moeller introduced the Committee members to those who were in attendance and then asked Roger Tepe, Director of the Department of Social Services if the Public Hearing had been properly noticed. Roger indicated that it was published in the Door County Advocate and in the Senior Resource Center monthly newsletter. Mark Moeller asked Roger Tepe if there was any written correspondence to present and no written correspondence was received prior to the Public Hearing.

Roger Tepe then gave an overview of the 85.21 program. The Senior Resource Center bus will continue to operate / provide services as it has in the past. The significant change to the program will be that after 12/31/09, the ½ price vouchers will no longer be accepted. Roger also commented on the 5311 transportation funding program. By mid 2010, a fixed route public transit system could be in place. The bus fare for seniors would be comparable, if not cheaper compared to the current rate charged for the Senior Resource Center bus. Money from the 5311 program is all new money; and there are no additional costs to property owners to run these programs.

Chairman Mark Moeller then opened the meeting with a statement regarding the purpose of the hearing and the procedures, which would be followed.

Nine (9) individuals attended the Public Hearing – Duane Lawrence, Roy Baumann, Verna M. Anderson, Judy Treptow, Betty Carstens, Pam Busch – Door Tran, Gwen Larson – Door Tran, and Paul Kok – Door County Transportation Consortium. Only one of the attendees made a statement at the Public Hearing:

Paul Kok, Door County Transportation Consortium, wanted to commend Roger Tepe for the enormous amount of effort and time that he has put into the 85.21 and 5311 programs and providing quality transportation. "Thank you Roger!"

Chairman Mark Moeller concluded the hearing by thanking all participants for their time and for expressing their thoughts.

The Public Hearing concluded at 1:42 p.m.

**Social Services Committee Meeting
November 10, 2009**

1. Call to Order: Chair Mark Moeller called the November 10, 2009 meeting of the Social Services Committee to order at 1:42 p.m. Committee members present were, Charles Brann, Joel Gunnlaugsson, and Ben Meyer. Department staff present were Roger Tepe, Bev Knutson, Doreen Weyenberg, Kay Englebert, Joanne Ator, and Mike VanEss. Committee member, Marc Savard was not in attendance.

2. Establish a Quorum: Enough committee members were in attendance to establish a quorum (4 out of 5 members were present).

3. Approve Agenda: Motion by Charles Brann, second by Joel Gunnlaugsson to adopt the agenda as posted. Motion carried.

4. Public Participation: Betty Carstens thanked the Committee members for assisting seniors with "getting around the community". She also apologized for those who were not present and should have been present.

5. Supervisor's Response: Committee Members, Ben Meyer and Mark Moeller, both thanked those who were in attendance for the Public Hearing on the proposed 2010 s. 85.21 Specialized Transportation Assistance Program and who stayed for the general meeting of the Social Services Committee meeting. No other responses were received.

6. Review and Approve Minutes of Social Services Committee Meeting. Motion by Ben Meyer, second by Joel Gunnlaugsson to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2009 meeting of the Social Services Committee. Motion carried.

7. Review and Approve Vouchers to be paid in November, 2009. Upon review and discussion, motion by Ben Meyer, second by Joel Gunnlaugsson to approve the vouchers as submitted and detailed below:

Social Services

Total Social Services expenditures submitted for approval	\$ 127,800.36
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Senior Resource Center

Total Senior Resource Center expenditures submitted for approval	<u>\$ 36,688.74</u>
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Total Expenditures for approval

	<u>\$ 164,489.10</u>
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The motion carried unanimously.

8. Action: s. 85.21 Specialized Transportation Assistance Program for Counties - 2010. A general discussion took place regarding the 85.21 program – the seniors would not see any change in the day to day operations. After December 31, 2009, the ½ price vouchers will no longer be available for use on the Senior Resource Center Bus. The current 85.21 plan is fairly similar to last years plan, with the exception of the funding formula using less 85.21 and more 5311 funding for the SRSC bus.

The public transit system was also discussed using the 5311 Transportation funds. This busing system would be bid out and would be contracted with the County. The hours of operation would be Monday thru Friday, 7:30 a.m. thru 6:00 p.m. A general meeting of the Door County Transportation Consortium will be held January 11, 2010, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., at the Prince of Peace Church in Sturgeon Bay, to discuss changes in Door County transportation, including the plans for the fixed route bus system. Questions / options with the SRC bus include: could there be more routes further north or south or could there be special runs for evening events? Until the public transit system is up and running, those questions could not be answered at this time, however they are questions that will be looked at for planning purposes.

Chairman Mark Moeller wanted to clarify that with the 5311 monies, the Senior Resource Center bus, Red Cross buses, and the Sunshine House buses had to agree to transport the general public, only if space was available. Roger Tepe confirmed that statement.

Charles Brann moved to accept the Department's proposed plan for the s. 85.21 Specialized Transportation Assistance Program for Counties, as presented and submit that plan to the Department of Transportation. Ben Meyer seconded the motion and also "thanked" Roger Tepe and Door Tran for all their efforts. Members from Door Tran introduced themselves: Pam Busch, Gwen Larson, and Paul Kok. The Committee voted on the motion as presented; and the motion carried unanimously.

9. Action: Gifts, Grants or Donations – to the Senior Resource Center. Roger Tepe presented two gifts that were received for the Senior Resource Center to the Committee.

- A. A gift in the amount of \$10,413.22 was received from the Maude K. Rucinski Revocable Trust as the final distribution from the Trust. A prior gift of \$48,127.84 was received earlier this year from the Trust. Charles Brann moved that the Social Services Committee accept the gift of the Maude K. Rucinski Revocable Trust in the amount of \$10,413.22, for use in the programs and services provided by the Door County Senior Resource Center. Further, this preliminary acceptance shall be forwarded to the full Door County Board of Supervisors for their final approval. Ben Meyer seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.
- B. A gift in the amount of \$1,000.00 was received from Clare M. Malvetz. It is noted that Clare is also known as "Katie" Malvetz. Katie was present at the meeting and the Committee members formally "Thanked" Katie for her generous gift. Ben Meyer moved that the Social Services Committee accept the gift of Clare M. (Katie) Malvetz in the amount of \$1,000.00, for use in the programs and services provided by the Door County Senior Resource Center. Further, this preliminary acceptance shall be forwarded to the full Door County Board of Supervisors for their final approval. Joel Gunnlaugsson seconded the motion. Chairman Mark Moeller requested that "Katie's" name be added to the resolution, as that is how she is known to many individuals. The Committee voted on the motion as presented; and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Information: Next Steps Following Passage of the 2010 County of Door Budget. As part of the budget process, Bev Knutson will be relieved of her responsibilities as supervisor of the Long Term Care Unit (currently known as the Adult Services Unit) and will become the full time supervisor at the Senior Resource Center effective January 1, 2010. Mike VanEss, who has 12 years of experience in the Long Term Care Unit, has accepted and will become the new supervisor for that unit, effective January 1, 2010. Roger Tepe has submitted a summary letter indicating that the budget process has been finalized – which approved both the full time management position at the Senior Resource Center, and provided for a full time supervisor for

the Long Term Care Unit. All conditions of the Corrective Action Plan as outlined by GWAAR have now been accomplished. The committee took no action.

11. Recurring Reports, Informational Only.

ADRC/Family Care: Door County and Kewaunee County were talking about doing a joint ADRC – 1 program unit, with 1 shared director and 2 field locations (Sturgeon Bay and Kewaunee). In past discussions with Kewaunee County, they were unsure of what direction they wanted to go in. Roger Tepe recently spoke with Bill Kelsey, Human Services Director with Kewaunee County, and discussions of a joint ADRC are back on and will take place in December.

At a recent Senior Services Advisory Committee meeting that Roger attended, discussion took place regarding a floor plan for the new Senior Resource Center. The structure would be approximately 15,000 square feet and have available space for an ADRC office suite with 5 – 7 staff members.

Door County will be working with 6 other counties for Family Care. The emphasis of Family Care is to keep our older adults out of nursing homes and other placements as much as possible and deliver services in their own homes. The 7 county Family Care organization will employ roughly 200+ employees and have an approximate \$200,000,000.00 budget. Informational meetings will be held to assist the public as well as the County Board in understanding how Family Care works and how it will affect them.

5311 Transportation Funding: Grant applications have been submitted for the year 2010 in the amount of \$650,000.00; which will be all new monies for the County. Roger Tepe has been in contact with Police Chief Dan Trelka regarding a proposed public transit system and safety issues. There have been several articles posted in the Senior Resource Center newsletter pertaining to the 5311 Transportation program.

The committee took no action.

12. Supervisor's Reports, Program Units, Informational Only.

Child and Family Services. Dori Weyenberg informed the Committee that the Legislature has passed an act pertaining to the levels of care in licensed Foster homes. Effective January 1, 2010, court – ordered Kinship Care homes will be required to be licensed at a Level 1 care. Door County currently has 9 Kinship Care homes, all of which are voluntary placements (not court ordered). Dori also updated the Committee on the number of children / juveniles in placement. Background checks will need to be completed more often now for Foster homes versus the current practice of at the initial time of application and every 4 years thereafter. A new ruling was passed that will allow Counties to license a relative's home in another county without prior consent from the corresponding County.

Economic Support. Joanne Ator also commented on the background checks as well for all child care providers being done every 3 months. The Economic Support Unit has seen an increase in program participation. For 5 eligibility caseworkers, there are 2018 cases. An additional 183 groups / households applied for FoodShare in October, 2009. 42% of the households that have applied for services are also currently employed. New applications increased by 25% in October 2009 compared to October 2008.

Joanne updated the Committee on the BadgerCare CORE Plan and the FoodShare program. Door County decided to process FoodShare applications that needed to be expedited due to the tremendous backlog at the State. In a recent article that Joanne shared with the Committee, the State of Wisconsin was failing to comply with Federal guidelines set for the timely processing of applications. The Federal Government could impose penalties, but they would rather work with the State to resolve this concern.

The Energy Assistance program, which is contracted through the Women's Employment Project (WEP), will see more funding for that program. Also, the income guidelines have increased, allowing more individuals to apply for assistance. WEP is also part of a Proactive Benefits program. This program will pay a percentage of a family's energy bill, after they (the family) pays a portion of the bill. This program keeps the family on a payment cycle to avoid shut off / disconnection.

Long Term Care Unit. Bev Knutson indicated that there are currently 28 clients on the waiting list and that the staff was working hard to remove individuals off of the list. Bev also talked about Financial Abuse with seniors. This type of abuse usually goes hand in hand with loneliness and most individuals who have been scammed, do not see their money come back. There are new legal actions / techniques available to local agencies and law enforcement to assist with "freezing" clients accounts to prevent any further scamming / loss of funds.

Senior Resource Center. The Senior Center was busy today with a variety of classes taking place and Leadership Door County participants were there during lunch time. Bev Knutson and Jo-Ann Schley had applied for a \$500.00 grant to promote staying healthy and exercising. She was happy to report that the Senior Resource Center did receive that grant. New exercise equipment will be purchased with those funds. November 11th is Veterans Day and the Center has a special event planned. There will be entertainment and Deb Hart from the Veterans Office will be present as well. November is also National Caregivers month and we will be hosting a luncheon to honor our many caregivers. Bev also reported that there will be a 2nd Friday meal served at the Washington Island meal site.

Support Services. Kay Englebert reported that the Department is at 74-75% of expenses compared to revenue and the Department is running ahead of projections.

The committee took no action on informational items presented.

13. Information: Director's Report. Roger Tepe had inquired about a comment made at the County Board Meeting during the 2010 budget approval process. The comment made concerned the possibility of a hiring freeze. A hiring freeze would put the Department of Social Services in a difficult position. Roger had asked the Committee members that if a hiring freeze were to be suggested, to please allow for exceptions / flexibility for all departments. Roger also indicated that a memo was received from Michael Serpe, County Administrator, indicating that preliminary numbers / ideas for streamlining operations for the 2011 Budget should be reviewed at the January, 2010 Social Services Committee meeting.

The committee took no action.

14. Action: Cancellation of the December, 2009 Regular Meeting. Per a memo from Mike Serpe, County Administrator, on behalf of County Board Chairman, Leo Zipperer, it is asked that all non-essential Committee meetings be cancelled for the month of December.

Charles Brann moved that the regular December, 2009 meeting of the Social Services Committee be cancelled per the recommendation of the County Board Chair. Further, we authorize the Committee Chair to sign the vouchers to be paid in December, 2009 on behalf of the Committee, with a full review of those vouchers at the regular January, 2010 meeting. Joel Gunnlaugsson seconded the motion, the motion carried unanimously.

15. Set Next Meeting Date: The committee set its next monthly meeting for 1:00 p.m., on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at the Government Center. A room is yet to be determined.

16. Adjournment: Motion by Joel Gunnlaugsson, second by Ben Meyer to adjourn the meeting at 3:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Coulthurst
Recording Secretary

APPROVED BY:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Ben Meyer", is written over a horizontal line.